

WO-281

1856

Old Eden Presbyterian Church
Whaleyville
public worship

On June 25, 1856, Peter Whaley and his wife Elizabeth Davis Whaley transferred to the trustees of the newly formed "Eden Presbyterian Church of Whaley Ville" a small tract of land known as "Grays Lot." Located on the road leading east from the main intersection of the village, the lot was improved shortly afterwards with a Greek Revival style frame church.

One of a small collection of Greek Revival style rural churches in Worcester County, the 1856 building is oriented to face north with a pedimented front elevation. Despite a sheathing of asbestos shingles and the removal of the corner pilasters, the church retains a significant degree of integrity with its classically inspired entrance and pediment. Important additional features include the fluted surround that trims the upper window and the marble date plaque.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: OLD EDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MHT Inventory Number: W0-281

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Religion

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1815-1870 AGRICULTURAL-INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION

4) Resource Type(s):

1. STANDING STRUCTURES

a. CHURCH

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. W0-281

Magi No. 2402815502

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic EDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

and/or common UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

2. Location

street & number South side of Circle Road ☐ not for publicationcity, town Whaleyville ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of the Ukrainian Orthodox Holy Trinity Church

street & number Circle Road telephone no.:

city, town Whaleyville state and zip code MD 21872

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WO-281

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The old Eden Presbyterian church, now used by the Ukrainian Orthodox Holy Trinity congregation, stands on the south side of Circle Road in the small village of Whaleyville, Worcester County, Maryland. The single story rectangular frame structure faces north with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1856, the asbestos shingled frame church is supported by a concrete block foundation, and it is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. Rising from the top of the church is a pyramidal roofed belfry. Associated with the church and standing behind it is a two-story frame parsonage. (See WO-282)

The north (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. Although the front door has been replaced the entrance is highlighted by an intact classical surround with paneled pilasters, a paneled frieze, and a stepped molding under the cornice. The transom has been covered. Originally the corners of the church were defined by pilasters; the capitals of which remain. The pedimented gable end is pierced by an original six-over-six sash window framed by a fluted surround with plain corner blocks. The top sash has a slightly segmental arch. Directly below the window is a framed date plaque inscribed "Eden Presbyterian Church, Erected A. D. 1856.

The east and west sides of the church are pierced by three large size six-over-six sash windows trimmed with a pointed arch pediment decoration. Above the windows, the eave is trimmed by a boxed cornice. The back of the building is a plain gable end wall with a pedimented top.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-281

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1856 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☒ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The old Eden Presbyterian church in Whaleyville is one of a small collection of Greek Revival style rural churches in Worcester County. Dated to 1856, the building is oriented to face north with a pedimented front elevation. Despite a sheathing of asbestos shingles and removal of the corner pilasters, the church retains a significant degree of integrity with its classically inspired entrance. Important additional features include the classical surround that highlights the entrance, the fluted surround that trims the upper window, and most significantly the marble date plaque.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

On June 25, 1856, Peter Whaley and his wife Elizabeth Davis Whaley transferred to the trustees of the newly formed "Eden Presbyterian Church of Whaley Ville" a small tract of land known as "Grays Lot." (JAP 1/147) Located along the road leading east from the main intersection, the lot was improved shortly afterwards by a Greek Revival style frame church. The congregation remained active until the early mid twentieth century when the property was sold finally to a Ukrainian Orthodox congregation.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-281

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart, architectural historian

organization Worcester County date 1/20/89

street & number Worcester County Courthouse telephone 301-632-1194

city or town Snow Hill state MD 21863

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

WO-281
EDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Chain of title

J.A.P. 1/147

Peter Whaley and wife Elizabeth

to

6/25/1856

Trustees of the Eden Presbyterian
Church of Whaley Ville in Worcester
County "Grays Lot"

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21872

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4

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11

12

13

218

TOWN

Ditch

K

A

B Branch

C

D

E

F

G

Ridge

Pine

EBENEZER

+

Pulletts Chapel

DUNCAN CROSSING RD

STEAM
MILL RD

Branch

WHALEYSVILLE

Whaleysville

Ukrainian Orthodox
Holy Trinity

CIRCLE

WO-281

ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1982

LONGRIDGE

610

50

346

Longridge Branch

GATEWAY

75°17'30" 1:290,000 FT

Joins Map 6

OCEAN

K

ins Inset - Left

